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THE ORGANIZED FARMER

July, 1957

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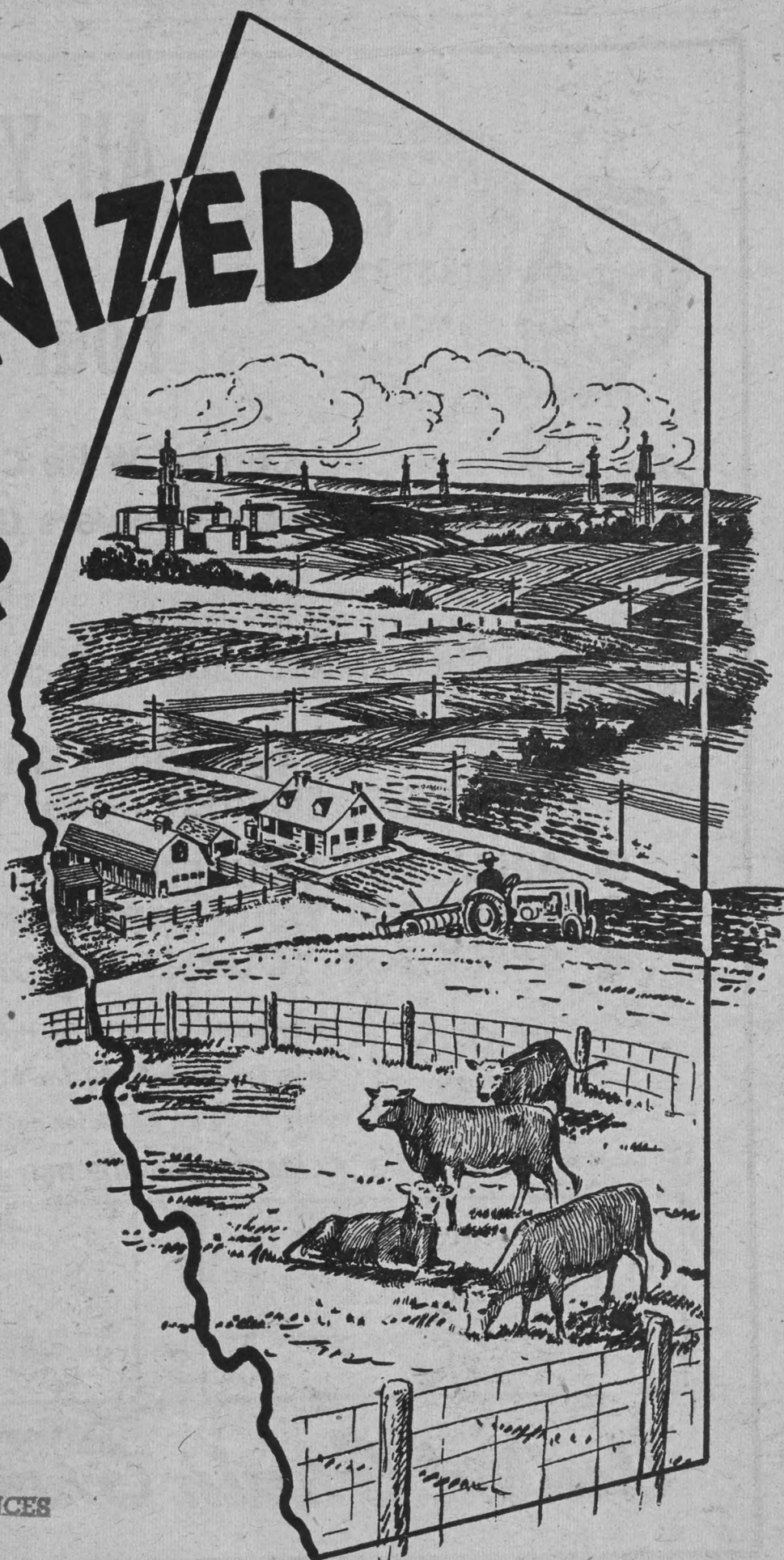
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GENERAL SCIENCES

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THE FIRST CLAIM

A customer applied for his insurance on May 11. Only four days later, on May 15, while disc plowing, he was thrown from his tractor and suffered 11 broken ribs and severe cuts. Fortunately he didn't wait to apply for his insurance.

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Farmers' Union of Alberta

9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta

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President's Report

This has been the month of District Conventions. At the time of writing ten have been held and four remain. Almost without exception attendance has been higher this year than last. Interest in, and debate on, the resolutions submitted has been good. More elections for district officials has occurred and, while few F.U.A. directors have been replaced, it is good to see competition for these important offices.

In talking with local people one hears some wonderful stories of local activities. Successful projects that have helped the community, study groups, and many more activities that are very worthwhile in themselves and which keep people coming to meetings, and their interest high in farm union affairs. When so few can do so much one can't help wondering what could be accomplished if even half of the Alberta farmers were really active farm union members.

We now have a new federal government. Two ministers are of particular importance to western farmers. These are the ministers of agriculture and trade and commerce. The minister of agriculture has not yet been appointed. The minister of trade and commerce is Mr. Churchill. We believe Mr. Churchill

is a man of integrity and of ability who will fill his office with distinction. I am sure he will have the full support of all farm organizations in developing plans to meet the many difficult problems he faces. We have no information as to who will be the new minister of agriculture. We presume that the delay in this appointment is due to Mr. Diefenbaker's desire to get the best possible man for the job.

Leaders of farm organizations have reason to believe that it is the desire of the new House of Commons to design a new national policy for agriculture, and have it implemented into law as soon as possible. We have pledged our full support. Factual information on conditions in agriculture and detailed plans for new policies are being prepared and will be presented to government and other groups as quickly as possible. It's my opinion that now is the time for the farm unions and other farm organizations to make a really determined effort to get those policies for agriculture that we have been talking about for so long. We are certainly going to make an all-out effort in the next few months.

I imagine all farm union people are aware that Jake Schulz was elected on the C.C.F. ticket in Springfield. Hansard should contain some interest-

(Continued on Page 4)

A Declaration of Conscience

On April 23, the renowned Dr Albert Schweitzer released a "Declaration of Conscience" with regard to the dangers of radioactive fallout from nuclear bombs — dangers to everyone now living, and to future generations of the human race. What follows is a brief excerpt; the full, frightening text of this vital document by a winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace, will appear in a future issue.

Dr. Schweitzer, now 83, is a medical missionary who directs a hospital for lepers at Lambarene, French Equatorial Africa. He is best known and loved as a great humanitarian and lover of all life, and has gained worldwide fame in the fields of medicine, literature, history philosophy and music.

His "Declaration" was issued at Oslo, under the auspices of the Nobel Prize Committee.—Ed.

* * *

"I raise my voice, together with those of others who have lately felt it their duty to act, in speaking and writing, as warners of the danger. My age, and the sympathy that I have gained for myself through advocating the idea of reverence for life, permit me to hope that my appeal may contribute to the preparing of the way for the insight so urgently needed . . .

"From official and unofficial sources we have been assured, time and time again, that the increase in radioactivity of the air does not exceed the amount which the human body can tolerate without any harmful effects. This is just evading the problem.

"Even if not directly affected by the radioactive material in the air, we are indirectly affected through that which has fallen down, is falling down, and will fall down. We are absorbing this through radioactive drinking water and through animal and vegetable foodstuffs, to the same extent as radioactive elements are stored in the vegetation of the region in which we live. Unfortunately for us, nature hoards what is falling down from the air.

"None of the radioactivity of the air, brought into existence by the exploding of atom bombs, is so unimportant that it may not, in the long run, become a danger to us through increasing the amount of radioactivity stored in our bodies . . .

"What this storing of radioactive material implies is clearly demonstrated by the observations made when, at one occasion, the radioactivity of the Columbia River in North America was analyzed. The radioactivity was caused by the atomic plants at Hanford, which produce atomic energy for industrial purposes, and which empty their waste into the river.

"The radioactivity of the river water was insignificant. But the radioactivity of the river plankton was 2,000 times higher, that of the ducks eating the plankton, 40,000 times higher that of the fish 150,000 times higher. In young swallows fed on insects caught by their parents in the river, the radioactivity was 500,000 times higher and in the egg yolks of water birds more than 1,000,000 times higher.

"We are forced to regard every increase in the existing danger through further creation of radioactive elements by atom bomb explosions as a catastrophe for the human race, a catastrophe that must be prevented under every circumstance.

"There can be no question of doing anything else, if only for the reason that we cannot take the responsibility for the consequences it might have for our descendants.

They are threatened by the greatest and most terrible danger.

"That radioactive elements created by us are found in nature is an astounding event in the history of the earth, and of the human race. To fail to consider its importance and its consequences would be a folly for which humanity would have to pay a terrible price. When public opinion has been created in the countries concerned and among all nations, an opinion informed of the dangers involved in going on with the tests and led by the reason which this information imposes, then the statesmen may reach an agreement to stop the experiments.

"A public opinion of this kind stands in no need of plebiscites or of forming of committees to express itself. It works through just being there.

"The end of further experiments with atom bombs would be like the early sun rays of hope which suffering humanity is longing for."

—Montana F.U. News, May 22/57

PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

ing reading next session. Congratulations, Jake, — I am sure that you will all agree that he will continue to do a job for the farmers of Canada.

Less well known is the fact that Warner Jorgenson won the seat in Provencher on the Conservative ticket. Warner is a former vice-president of the Manitoba Farmers' Union. I was with Warner on a delegation to Ottawa last fall. He is a young man, veteran of the last war, an able speaker and a pleasing personality. He is a man who will go far in his new field of interest and I am certain he will do a great job for agriculture.

'Unsatisfactory' Judgment Fund

Every motorist on Alberta highways should be financially protected from the other fellow's mistakes. If he is to blame, of course, he (or his insurance company) must stand the loss to his own car or persons or passengers. But if the other motorist is to blame, the first one should know that the guilty one (or his insurance company) will pay. The motorist should not have to stand the cost if someone else is to blame. And sooner or later the law will assure that.

In the meantime the guilty motorist may not have liability insurance. And he may have no money of his own. Therefore the Alberta government has established the "Unsatisfied Judgment Fund", made up of a levy on each motorist and the money going to reimburse innocent motorists when they can't collect from the guilty ones.

It has been explained in our news columns that the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund is wholly inadequate at the top. No matter how much damages the innocent party has suffered, the fund will pay out no more than \$5,000 to one person and \$10,000 for one accident. And if later some money can be collected on the Judgment against the guilty motorist, the fund must first be reimbursed. As was shown previously, this works an acute hardship on some people. They may be crippled for life, yet they collect only \$5,000.

The Alberta Motor Association is taking this up with the government.

Now we would like to draw attention to an equally unfair limitation on the fund at the bottom. We are sure most motorists don't realize it is there. Up to two or three hundred dollar damages, the fund is just as worthless as it is beyond \$5,000.

* * *

By way of illustration, here is an actual case. An unfit car was duly licensed but not insured. The owner — we'll call him Jones — had no pink card for it. He caused an accident on a highway near Calgary, and five people in the other car might have been killed. Fortunately the only damage was about \$200 to Smith's car.

Jones, his irresponsibility already demonstrated, admitted guilt but refused to pay the bill. The police were called in and notified he didn't have a pink card. So he paid \$25 on the bill and they gave him the weekend to raise the rest. Instead, he skipped. "Go to the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund," the police told Smith.

The situation at this point would have been just the same if Jones had left the province at the outset. The relevant fact was that the guilty party was out of the province and goodness knows where.

So Smith, thinking he could collect from the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund, saw a legal firm fully experienced in the matter. This, in part, was the written reply:

"In order to collect from the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund you would have to have a judgment against the party, which means that your claim would have to be issued and served upon this person. This means that you would have to know where he is in order to get the service effected and if service cannot be made, the commencement of the claim would be a waste of time and money. After getting the judgment you would then have to take all steps open to you under legal process to realize on the judgment and then, failing to make recovery, apply to the Fund. As you can see, obtaining payment from the Fund is not a simple matter.

"In addition, only damages over \$100 would be so collectible . . . If they are less than \$100 you would have no claim against the Fund at all.

"Since the other party is apparently not insured you would have to collect from him if you were going to collect at all. If he has left the province and you cannot find him it would appear that this is a case where you will have to pocket the loss incurred."

What it means is this: You pay the first \$100 yourself, the first \$100 of the damage the other fellow did to your car. Then, if you can find him and go to the trouble and expense of getting a court judgment against him and serving him with it, you can collect from the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund — up to \$5,000. That's why we say the fund is worthless to the accident victim up to two or three hundred dollars damages. Below that, it wouldn't pay to try to collect from the Fund.

"But your insurance company will pay the repair bill," someone says. Same thing. Why should Smith's insurance company pay when Jones is responsible? And some motorists drive carefully so they won't have to make any claims on their own insurance company. If more of them took the attitude — that they should protect the interests of their insurance companies, since in the end insurance companies have no money except what they get from their policyholders — that would bring insurance rates down quicker than anything else.

Besides, Smith may have only liability insurance, or his collision insurance may be \$250 deductible, in which case he still has to stand that first \$100.

The point is that in Alberta at the present time the innocent motorist is not protected below say \$300, or above \$5,000, pink card or no pink card. And yet most motorists, we are sure, having paid into the Unsatisfied Judgment Fund for many years, think they are fully protected.

What can be done about it?

Every automobile is required by law to have a license, which is not a license at all but just a tax. Pay your money and you'll get a license.

So why make the license mean something? Why not specify that to qualify for a license a car must be covered with adequate liability insurance for the duration of the license? Of course that's compulsory insurance, but so what? Surely it's high time that financial responsibility were compulsory. Surely it's not enough just to impound the guilty driver's car and let the victim go soak.

The pink card idea might still be retained. The Unsatisfied Judgment Fund would still be needed, if for nothing else than to take care of accidents involving out-of-province cars.

But in the meantime it is not an Unsatisfied Judgment Fund. It is an Unsatisfactory Judgment Fund.

—Editorial, Calgary Albertan, June 11/57

Hi-lites on British Agriculture

Mr. Uri Powell of Grande Prairie, FUA director for District 1, returned from Great Britain recently and reports many interesting hi-lites on agriculture there. He says that many important changes have occurred in England since his boyhood days. The farms have become slightly larger but not as much as we would be led to believe. The farms are highly mechanized. The production of food is about double of what it was about 50 years ago. The farms are still operated by farm families. One reason for such high production is that the farmers are guaranteed a forward price for their products. Farming is also highly scientific. Farmers are doing well but complain about high taxes. The average size of the farm is about 320 acres. They produce much grass. Labor per farm is quite high.

The price review is about once a year. The negotiation is carried out between the farmers' organization and the government. For example

— the farmers receive about 65 cents for a dozen eggs, but the consumers pay about 35 cents for a dozen eggs. This is really a consumer subsidization. In rearing cattle, a farmer receives a subsidy for a calf six months old, then when the same calf is reared as beef the farmer receives a further subsidy.

The yields of crops are high. Grain driers are used frequently to handle heavy crops. The subsidies are paid on weight basis.

Although Britain has many types of soil, farmers are using many special fertilizers to maintain yields. Many years ago sheep were used to maintain fertility of the soil. Now the sheep are raised in the mountainous areas, as well as in the grass areas. British agriculture is prosperous and Britons are well fed.

FREE SAFETY FILMS

by Mrs. W. C. Taylor

Last month we listed available speakers on Safety. The following is a partial list of films available to organizations without charge. Available from Alberta Safety Council, Dept. of Extension, University of Alberta, Edmonton:

- S52-4 Incredible Journey, shows a journey that begins at a farm auction — showing victims of preventable accidents — 27 minutes, in black and white.
- S58-9 Chain Reaction, a driver starting out in angry mood and the results — 20 minutes, black and white.
- S13-15 A Closed Book—one of the finest safety films. Will make anyone stop and think. Three reels, 25 minutes, black and white.
- A2409-10 Are You Safe at Home?—Methods of preventing and fighting fire. 2 reels, 20 minutes, black and white.
- S6 - 7 What's Your Safety I.Q.? — Safety at home, in traffic and in recreation—audience participation—2 reels—20 minutes, color.
- S46 School Bus and You — 10 minutes, black white.
- S55-7 Farm Petroleum Safety Handling—use, storage of petroleum on the farm — 26 minutes, color.
- I'm No Fool on a Bicycle — Disney production with Jimminy Cricket—10 mins., color.
- S4 - 5 Last Date — Teen-agers — 2 reels, black white.
- S20 Gentleman Jekyll and Driver Hyde — a laugh and a lesson — 1 reel, black and white.
- S22 - 3 Driving in the City — 2 reels, — 14 minutes, black and white.
- A2565-8 Miracle in Paradise Valley — Dangers of Farm Work — 3 reels — 25

minutes, black and white.

Available from Red Cross at 1504 - 1st Ave. E., Calgary, or 9931 - 106 St., Edmonton.

Don't Drown — 17 minutes, color.

No Time to Spare—Artificial Respiration — 10 minutes, color.

Available from International Harvester Co., 10914 - 120 Street, Edmonton:

Day in Court—Traffic violations as the violator sees it and the official version — 25 minutes, color.

A very good film entitled "Drunk Driving" is available from Metro-Goldwyn-Myer.

Films—8th Avenue and 6th St. W., Calgary—at a cost of \$5.00 per night plus express.

DISTRICT 11 F.U.A. CONVENTION

Approximately 100 delegates, officials and visitors gathered at Hanna on June 17th for the District 11 convention. The meeting opened at 10 a.m. under the chairmanship of J. A. Cameron and Lester Wager.

Mayor I. F. Shacker welcomed the delegates on behalf of Hanna. Mr. Cameron, FUA director; and Mrs. Louise Johnston, FWUA director, reported on their year's activities. At the afternoon session a presentation took place in honor of the late Dr. Henry Wise Wood, the late Robert Gardiner and the late Miss Agnes McPhail. This took the form of a gavel presented to the district association by J. K. Sutherland, with the above names inscribed on the gavel in silver plate.

Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite, FWUA 2nd vice-president took for her subject "The Great World Women's Conference" now being held in Ceylon and being attended by Mrs. C. T. Armstrong, FWUA president.

Mr. Arnold Platt, FUA president, dealt with organization matters and the relationship of the FUA with the provincial and federal governments, and answered a large number of question.

Mr. Larry Helmer, chairman of the Hanna Board of Trade also addressed the convention.

A number of resolutions were dealt with, among them were those dealing with larger polling divisions, Alberta agricultural museum, investigation into gasoline prices, approving of new type of road construction in special areas, etc.

Officers elected were: J. A. Cameron, FUA director; Lester Wager, alternate FUA director; Mrs. Louise Johnston, FWUA director; Mrs. Jim Paetz, alternate FWUA director; sub-directors elected were: Lorne Proudfoot, Philo Dean, George Landis, Andrew Soglund, Mrs. Geo. Bressett, Mrs. Wm. Anderson, Mrs. N. B. Quaschnick, Mrs. Jim Paetz. Junior director is George Doupe and secretary, J. K. Sutherland.

DISTRICT 13 ANNUAL CONVENTION

District 13 annual convention was held on June 8th at Medicine Hat, commencing at 10:30 a.m. with 79 delegates and 41 visitors registering.

Mr. A. H. Anderson, FUA director, opened the convention, followed by an address of welcome by Mayor H. Veiner. Mr. Brian Summerville, field superintendent at Medicine Hat, brought greetings from the Alberta Wheat Pool.

Mr. A. H. Anderson, FUA director, and Mrs. Sam Alberts, FWUA director, reported on their year's activities.

Mr. A. W. Platt, FUA president, was guest speaker, speaking on the municipal collection of dues, car insurance scheme, accounting service and other matters of interest to the members. Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite, FWUA vice-president, was unable to attend due to illness in the family.

Officers elected were: A. H. Anderson, FUA director; Mrs. Sam Alberts, FWUA director; Edwin Herrmann, alternate FUA director; Mrs. Thelma Duby, alternate FWUA director. Sub-directors elected were Earl Johnson, Hussar; Frank Reade, Brooks; Ray Swanson, Scandia; John E. Muza, Empress; and T. Stehr, Medicine Hat.

A number of resolutions were brought up and discussed. Among those passed were ones dealing with electricians being bonded, farm cars to be financed under Farm Improvement Loan, grain quotas, trucks being allowed to use purple gas on market roads, etc.

Next year's convention will be held in Brooks.

SUB-DISTRICT 2 DISTRICT 5 CONVENTION

The annual convention of Sub-district 2 was held June 12th in FUA office. There were 20 members present. Mr. Oscar Hittinger was re-elected sub-director. Several resolutions were dealt with. Particular attention was focused on the collection of FUA dues through the municipal district. The members felt that unless definite steps were taken to enforce this practice the union would find itself in precarious position.

Mr. Hittinger gave a report on the progress made by the various locals. The special guests, Mrs. Laura Gibeau, FWUA director and Mr. Charles Seeley, FUA director, gave interesting talks on their activities during the past year.

Mr. Hittinger wishes to thank the members and district officials for their kind co-operation.

Why Land Prices Keep Going Up

There's a land rush, of sorts, all across the nation.

Price of land goes up and up. Cheap but desirable sites for homes or businesses are harder to locate. Farms command record prices, even though profits from farming are down.

An official survey finds further strength in land values, after 17 years of almost steady rise.

Land in this country, like many other things, is continuing to go up in price. That is true of land in cities, in suburbs and out in the country.

What's more, the rise went on in the face of uncertainty about the outlook for farming as a business.

Shortage of Land?

One of the most powerful forces is pressure on the supply of land, the pressure of a rapidly growing population and rapidly expanding industry and public works.

Generally, you find the highest land prices in the provinces where there are the heaviest concentrations of people and industry.

Across the country, in many cities and suburbs, something of a shortage of land apparently is developing. Business finds it harder to assemble acreage suitable for factories and commercial buildings, unless it moves far out into the country. Home builders, even when they are putting up fewer houses, encounter rising prices for land. Local rules, restrictions and lack of public utilities all conspire to reduce the number of sites that can readily be put to use.

In that sense, there is a scarcity of land. And scarcity, as usual, is reflected in rising prices.

Inflation Hedge?

The upward trend is reinforced by a second powerful factor: the general rise in prices of goods, and the steady cheapening of the dollar. This inflation makes farmers and other landholders reluctant to sell, to exchange an asset with a record of rising value for cash or bonds or other assets that have not done so well.

Land, in other words, kept far ahead in the race with inflation and, as a result, served rather effectively as a hedge for those who bought at low cost and held on. That experience, real estate men say, is encouraging many

farmers to hold their land even when their income from farming is being squeezed way down. Meanwhile, the long boom in prices leads to a certain amount of buying for speculation on the fringes of the suburbs and in the faster-developing provinces.

Upheaval in Farming

Land buying is not limited, however, to developers and "city slickers". Farmers, the prosperous ones, are buying actively.

Out in the country, the rise in land prices is traced to a considerable extent to the effects of the farm revolution. Up-to-date farmers are finding they can handle more and more land with little increase in operating expense. This is the result of using machinery and modern methods.

As these farmers expand their operations, they produce larger crops for sale, their capital investment is spread over a larger volume and cost per pound of bushel goes down. That leads to a curious situation: Fewer and fewer young men want to go into farming. More and more men are getting out of farming. Yet the demand for farm land is strong enough to keep prices high or rising in all but the least prosperous sections of the nation. It seems that, for every family that leaves the farm, one or more farmers stand ready to buy the land at a good price.

Higher Prices Ahead?

In addition, the other factors making for higher prices seem to be losing little, if any, strength. Some of them may become even more important in the years ahead.

Canadian Population Increase

At present, the impact of this growth in population is somewhat muted by the fact that fewer new households are being established, needing new homes. This trend is due to be reversed in just a few years, when the babies of World War II marry and set up housekeeping. At that point, the need for land for houses, not so intense right now, can be expected to grow rather rapidly.

Before that, the highway program will hit its stride, taking more and more valuable land in and around the cities and on through the countryside. Most of the land for the nation's new bypasses and superhighways remains to be bought, but plans already are causing land values to rise. Some land is being bought for future development in areas that will be opened up.

Force of Growth

Those are reasons why many economists expect the rise in land prices to continue. That doesn't mean that land everywhere will gain in value or that the changes will be uniform. Some neighborhoods will deteriorate. Some farms will revert to woodland. From time to time, a slowing down in business may dampen demand for land more generally. But, over the years, the force of growth alone, even if inflation should end, is counted on for a strong market in land.

FURTHER INCREASE IN NET FARM INCOME

Net income of Canadian farmers from farming operations in 1956 is estimated at \$1,573 million, compared with \$1,423 million in 1955 and the post-war low of \$1,161 million in 1954.

Farmers' receipts from the sale of farm products were 2,662 million in 1956 compared with \$2,357 million in 1955. The increase was due to higher returns from the sale of grains, cattle, hogs, poultry and eggs and to larger grain participation payments.

Farm operating expenses and depreciation charges in 1956 were at an all time high of \$1,675 million, compared with \$1,581 million in 1955. Increased expenditures were recorded for nearly all commodities and services used.

—Notes on Canadian Agriculture

FROM FOLK SONG TO ROCK 'N' ROLL

Young farmers' clubs in Wales recently held what they called a Top County Festival at Aberystwyth. Teams from 11 Welsh counties devised half-hour programs reflecting the particular talent, idiom, and type of entertainment of the county in which they live; and the whole series was presented to an audience of 1,000 from all over Wales. Items varied from the singing of traditional Welsh penillion (Welsh folk songs in which one tune is played, usually on a harp, while words are sung to another tune) to rock 'n' roll. A panel of experts judged the performances for production, staging, choice of items, variety and reflection of young farmers' clubs' endeavor: Merionethshire, stronghold of Welsh speech and culture, were declared winners.

From—United Kingdom Information Service

DISTRICT 1 CONVENTION

F.U.A. District 1 held a very successful convention, Thursday, June 13th in Speke Hall, Grande Prairie, with 93 delegates, 12 district officials and 17 registered visitors present. They all seemed to take a keen interest in all the discussion.

The convention officially started at 10 a.m. with a devotional period conducted by Rev. G. B. Johnston, followed by an address of welcome by Mayor R. Millar of Grande Prairie. Mr. A. W. Platt, FUA president and Mrs. Olive Douglass, FWUA 1st vice-president were guest speakers.

Elections were held during the afternoon, the results being:

FUA Director — Uri Powell, Sexsmith

FWUA Director — Mrs. Marie Robertson, Clairmont.

Alternate FUA Director — Laverne Sorgaard, La Glace.

Alternate FWUA Director — Mrs. Lillian Moore, Grande Prairie.

Junior Director—Eddie Brown, Beverlodge.

Sub-directors:

Sub-district 1 — Chas. Evaskevitch, Hythe.

Sub-district 2—Laverne Sorgaard, La Glace.

Sub-district 3 — Ed Coney, Clairmont.

Sub-district 4 — E. T. Sather, Wanham.

Sub-district 5 — Robert Herrick, Woking.

Sub-district 6 — R. L. Smathers, Bay Tree.

Twenty-five resolutions were considered during the day, two of which were turned down and one referring to the bringing of pound laws up to date was handed to the Provincial Board for consideration. Resolutions carried covered a multitude of subjects such as livestock marketing boards, provincial salary schedule for teachers, reduction of gasoline prices in the Peace River in line with the rest of the province, F.U.A. pension plan, FUA sponsorship of 4-H clubs, gas and oil rights dividends to go for special school and social service grants, and to ask the Provincial Department of Agriculture not to hold field days on the Farmers' Holiday or on District convention days.

A banquet was served by the Grande Prairie Co-op Ladies' Guild to some 90 people in the basement of the convention hall. Entertainment was provided by a local musical troupe known as the "Sprodie Trio". Guest speaker was Rev. G. B. Johnston who based his talk on the theme "Far Horizon", which was both amusing and thought provoking.

The Organized Farmer

Editor A. W. PLATT

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EDITORIALS

The Election — an Opportunity and a Responsibility

The results of the election provide a unique opportunity for farm organizations to press for a new national policy for agriculture. We in Alberta intend to do just that to the very best of our ability. I know that farm organizations in the other provinces feel the same way.

I am optimistic that we will go a long way to secure adequate price supports and other benefits that are part of our policy of parity of income for agriculture and the preservation of the family type farm. The working out of these policies will take the very best thought, the highest degree of responsibility on the part of all concerned. It will be our policy to work with all members of the House and to provide all the assistance we can. We will also work in good faith with all other farm organizations in the achievement of our mutual aims.

If we are successful in achieving our objectives we will give all credit to those members and groups who initiated the support of the necessary legislation.

Even if we are successful we will not achieve full parity until we, ourselves, do a better job of buying our supplies and selling our produce. That, too, is a part of our policy.

Car Insurance

During the District Conventions I found a lot of interest in our new car insurance pool. I am gratified at the interest but what we need is action. Regardless of when your present policy expires see your local secretary and fill in the pink slip. C-operative Fire and Casualty Company will see that you get full information before your present policy expires. We will know that you are really interested. Let's put this over with a bang.

In this scheme about 80% of your premium dollar is allocated to paying claims. Read in this issue about the Safety campaign Canada and the United States are sponsoring. Let all F.U.A. people support this safety campaign to the limit and help put a stop to needless slaughter on our highways. Slow down — and live, and get cheaper insurance as well.

A NEW ELECTION

I am not one of those who think we should have a new election right away. Minority government raises problems but so does a government with a large over-all majority. While all groups in the new House differ on many points there are a great many on which they agree and that includes a new deal for agriculture. Let us give Mr. Diefenbaker and colleagues a chance to introduce and put into effect a new national policy for agriculture. If they can't get support it will be time enough for a new election.

Canada Enters First Month Campaign Against Speeders

Ottawa — Canada is in its first month of a three-month vacation time campaign against the "in-a-hurry" motorists. It is too early to judge the trend of the drive or to estimate its effect, but evidence has reached its sponsor, the Canadian Highway Safety conference, that agencies all across the nation are taking up the cudgels in the war on speed. The campaign, bearing the slogan-title of "Slow Down and Live" coincides in Canada with a parallel drive being carried out in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Police, magistrates and judges, provincial and community safety organizations, provincial government departments and officials, industry and various associations and societies are giving active support to the "Slow Down and Live" effort. They aim their guns not alone at the speeder, who is termed by the Conference as one of the deadliest menaces on wheels, but at the driver in a hurry. This includes the motorist who cuts in and out of traffic,

tries every trick of the road to "make time" especially on long trips, crowds the rear of the car ahead, ignores the right of way when the other traffic has it, insists on maintaining high speed in rain, fog, heavy traffic, road construction and other hazards, ignores speed restrictions in built-up sections. "He's the impatient one. He knows better, but he neglects what he knows," says the Conference.

This campaign has the support of Canada's Governor General and Prime Minister, the provincial Premiers as well as the President of the United States and the State Governors. Transport and transit groups are working at it and the public has been urged to participate as strongly as they can.

"Speed kills," read the campaign material. "Slow Down and Live."

SEED GROWERS

The Alberta Wheat Pool delegates assembled in special session in Calgary on June 12, gave final ratification to an agreement between the boards of Directors of the Alberta Wheat Pool and the Alberta Seed Growers' Co-operative, whereby the latter will become part of the Wheat Pool.

The Wheat Pool will pay the Seed Growers' Co-operative \$315,000 for all its assets, excluding stocks of seed. As quickly as organizational details can be worked out the Wheat Pool will commence operating a seeds department using the facilities acquired from the Seed Growers. The department will be operated on a self-sustaining, co-operative basis. It will be expected to carry itself without subsidy from the Wheat Pool and in turn the members delivering seed will receive the surplus earnings in the form of patronage dividends.

No details of operation have been worked out at present. The Alberta Seed Growers' Co-operative is still in complete charge of all its operations. An announcement will be made as soon as it is definitely known when the Wheat Pool will take over. It expects to be in a position to take delivery of the new seed crop this summer.

Assets of the Seed Growers' Co-operative include plants at Camrose, Grande Prairie, Coronation, as well as properties at Edmonton, Lethbridge, Dawson Creek, Beaverlodge, Falher, Spirit River, Brooks and about 25 other points in the province.

Stocks of seed still held by the Seed Growers will be disposed of by that organization which will make final settlement to its members.

The Alberta Seed Growers' Co-operative, since its inception some 15 years ago, has performed a valuable service to Alberta seed growers in estab-

lishing improved market returns for seed. In recent years its members have felt that the magnitude of the operation and intensity of competition necessitated greater strength and resources, such as those of the Wheat Pool, to deal with seed marketing problems. The Seed Growers' Co-operative has not failed. It has bowed to wisdom and met stiffening conditions by allying with greater strength. Although the Alberta Wheat Pool will soon be assuming the responsibility of marketing Alberta seed, much is owed to the achievement of the pioneers of the Seed Co-operative. The Wheat Pool has assumed a grave responsibility and a real obligation to fulfill the ideals and purposes for which the members of the Seed Growers' Co-operative have striven.

—Wheat Pool Budget, June 21, 1957

NO FIRE SALE OF WHEAT

No more difficult problem will confront a new government in Canada than the wheat surplus. Gone are the days when we sent our No. 1 hard abroad, mostly to Britain, and had nothing to worry about. Now complicated circumstances have evolved, along with new sources of export grain and a loss of some markets formerly open to this country.

The United States, burdened with an enormous stockpile of wheat resulting from a guarantee to the growers of something close to "parity" has devised marketing methods which include barter deals, acceptance of depreciated currencies, conditional sales and so on, with the double purpose of lowering wheat stocks and creating wider markets for U.S. manufactured goods. All of which is smart, but the Canadian government regards it as unfair and has protested to Washington. There is no prospect of favorable action.

Actually, Canada has sold as much wheat in the past five years as in the preceding period. We have simply grown more wheat than we can get rid of by normal marketing methods.

There is no magic formula by which all can be set right in short order, yet something must be done. Incorporated in the Progressive Conservative platform for years past is the principle of a "fair price-cost relationship" for agriculture, to ensure farmers, as Mr. Diefenbaker said at Massey Hall, "a fair share of the national income." He pointed out in Parliament that storage charges by the elevator companies have alone cost farmers \$17,000,000 to \$25,000,000 a year. The St. Laurent Government rejected an Opposition proposal to pay farmers for farm-stored grain, and instead provided for guaranteed loans from the banks.

Meanwhile, there is a surplus of about 750,000,000 bushels of wheat, 50 million more than a year ago.

The whole situation in regard to export sales must be intensively studied, and in that connection Mr. Diefenbaker has repeatedly advocated a Commonwealth trade conference. Soon he will be in a position to bring that about. The member for Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, with 13 other Prairie members at his back will know what best to do and when, and can be depended upon to do it.

For the information of western wheat-farmers, the Toronto journalistic would-be adviser to John Diefenbaker, which is advocating quick sale of the Canadian wheat surplus at whatever price it can command in world markets, has long been a Diefenbaker critic, has never displayed understanding of his wheat proposals and positively has no authority to represent his views.

—Toronto Telegram, June 14, 1957

DISTRICT 7 F.W.U.A. CONFERENCE

The eighth annual conference for District 7 was held in Vermilion School of Agriculture on June 22nd.

Mr. Bentley, principal of the Vermilion School of Agriculture, spoke, asking the younger generation not to be discouraged from farming. An interesting talk was given by Dr. V. W. Wright from the Cancer Clinic. Mr. M. D. Fleming, field supervisor showed a film on Australia.

A number of resolutions were discussed. The lawn lunch was enjoyed by all.

DISTRICT 3 F.W.U.A. CONFERENCE

Seventy-eight ladies from six locals registered for the FWUA conference held in the Freedom Hall on June 8th. Chairmen were Mrs. G. Beach and Mrs. D. Lyons, and the secretary, Mrs. James.

Mrs. C. Johnston gave a report of last year's Farm Women's Week in Vermilion. The secretaries of the six locals participating in a panel discussion which highlighted the various activities of the past year.

Reports were given by Clare Anderson, FUA director; Mrs. G. Beach, FWUA director and Bob Hutchinson, Jr. director.

Miss Montalbetti, district home economist, judged the handicraft display, giving first place to Eastburg, second to Freedom and third to Westlock.

The annual draw for a local who will select a member to attend Farm Women's Week as sponsored by the conference went to Freedom.

The guest speaker was Dr. A. Horner of Barrhead who gave a talk on "New Drugs and how they are used". Mr. W. Sharek of Westlock reported on the Westlock Library.

Two resolutions were passed, dealing with the weave being printed on yard goods, and resolved that the women of the conference make it their project for the year to do something about the Old People's Home in Westlock.

A half hour's entertainment was given by Westlock and Hazel Bluff locals.

FINANCIAL POST REPORTS RYE GRAIN RESTRICTIONS BY U.S. MAY BE EXTENDED ANOTHER YEAR

It looks like the U.S. import restriction against Canadian rye grain will be continued at least for another year.

The U.S. Tariff Commission is considering whether the import quota on rye should be allowed to run out at the end of June, or be continued.

It testified that if Canadian rye grain were allowed to come freely into the U.S. market, the U.S. price support system on rye grain would be ruined.

The action before the tariff commission is under section 22 of the agricultural adjustment act which authorizes import quotas on any commodity which might enter the U.S. in such quantities as to undermine the price support system.

Opposing a continuation of the import quota was a brief from the Canadian Wheat Board who said it was no longer necessary.

The tariff commission, however, is paying considerable attention to the position taken by the Department of Agriculture.

Officials at the commission have indicated privately it was likely the import quota will be continued.

The commission recommendation will shortly be sent to President Eisenhower who will give the final answer.

The U.S. now has a yearly quota of 186 million lb. of rye grain, rye meal and rye flour. Of this amount Canada is allocated 182,280,000 lb.

While the U.S. is anxious to restrict imports of Canadian Commercial rye grain it is, on the contrary, anxious to bring in certain certified seed rye. This can enter the U.S. market in any amount. Rye grain pays a 6c duty. This can be paid and still give the Canadian producers a profit.

FROM A POINT OF LAW:

PROBLEMS RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE

by A. M. BROWNLEE

So much discussion has taken place in recent years on the subject of motor vehicle insurance and the necessity for adequate coverage for owners of automobiles, that an article on that aspect of the situation would not be of too much general interest. However, a person connected with a legal office cannot help but comment on the fact that awards of Courts in automobile accident cases are becoming very substantial, particularly in cases where death or bodily injuries occur, with the result that minimum coverage is seldom adequate protection.

It is up to the individual owner, therefore, to judge for himself how much protection he feels he can afford to carry. It is the purpose of this article to attempt to point out the importance of exercising great care in making out an application for automobile insurance and signing the necessary application forms. There are two particular situations which we have seen occur on more than one occasion and which are a cause for concern.

The two types of insurance coverage which are foremost in the mind of an automobile owner are collision coverage and third party liability coverage. Collision coverage is relatively expensive. It requires the insurance company to pay the owner the cost of repairs to his automobile resulting from an accident. Third party liability coverage protects the car owner from a claim for damages arising when he becomes involved in an automobile accident in which other persons suffer death or bodily injuries.

The first of the two situations we mentioned may result from the following circumstances, —Mr. Jones purchases a farm truck with a small down payment and the balance under a Conditional Sales Contract. The finance company wishes to insure that its equity in the truck is immediately covered by insurance and may make immediate arrangements to have an insurance policy taken out rather than simply leave it to Mr. Jones to make his own arrangements for insurance. Unfortunately, the finance company is only interested in protecting against loss arising from collision; that is to say, it wants to be sure that if the truck is damaged the repair or replacement costs will be paid.

The company may completely overlook discussing with Mr. Jones whether he wishes to have third party liability coverage. Mr. Jones is satisfied in his own mind that he has his truck and has insurance on it. He later becomes involved in an automobile accident in which a third party is killed or injured and in the subsequent investigation he finds that he has no third party liability coverage. Undoubtedly he may personally be faced with a crippling judgment awarded against him by the Courts in favour of the Estate of the deceased person or the injured party. Mr. Jones' only neglect probably is that he did not pay sufficient attention to the matter or the type of insurance that was being taken out at the time he purchased the truck.

A more common situation may occur in the ordinary case where Mr. Smith goes to his own insurance agent and signs an application for an insurance policy covering his vehicle. When you have taken out an insurance policy covering have you ever really read every word of the application to make sure firstly that every question in the application has been answered, and secondly that the answers are absolutely correct. Quite often, a person like Mr. Smith does not even read the application. He answers questions put to him by the insurance agent who fills in the application, and then Mr. Smith signs it. Subsequently, Mr. Smith becomes involved in an accident and notifies his insurance company. The insurance company will examine the application and the policy and may find that the application may either contain incorrect information or that all of the items of information have not been disclosed. For example, the question is asked as to whether the applicant has been involved in a previous motor accident. We have seen completed applications where this has been left blank in circumstances where the applicant had in fact been involved in at least one previous accident. If the application is defective in any of the ways we have mentioned, it may be that Mr. Smith will be without insurance coverage. Insurance companies are slow to take advantage of a technical omission. On the other hand, the company is determining whether they would be prepared to give Mr. Smith insurance protection. Obviously his previous accident record would be very material from this standpoint.

It is our view that the primary responsibility of seeing that the insurance application is correct in every detail rests with Mr. Smith, and except in rather unusual circumstances we doubt whether he is entitled to complain that he thought that the insurance agent was making it out correctly.

THE HOUSING SITUATION

by Irene Louise Harrison

There's swallows in the bluebird house
And sparrows in the martin.
And in and out the wren's abode
A chic-a-dee is dartin'.

A robin dignified and bold
Has settled for a tree —
Although the covered shelf I made
Is cosy as can be.

But still I'm happy with their choice.
The error was not theirs.
For mother birds well know the spot
That's right for babies' prayers.

THE BIG PIT

Mr. F. N. Kent, who farms 1,400 acres (566 hectares) near Blandford Forum, Dorset, believes that the secret to silage is having a large quantity in one place — provided that it is easy to get at. He makes 1,200 tons of silage a year and houses it all under one roof, in a pit 120 feet (36.5 metres) long, 30 feet (9.144 metres) wide, and some 14 feet (4.267 metres) deep.

Below ground level the pit is concrete-lined; above, the walls are made of over 300 wooden railway sleepers. These have buttresses bedded in concrete blocks to withstand outward thrust. Inside the pit, and running from end to end, two parallel drains filled with hard core take away seepage. The whole is covered by an eight-bay Dutch barn. There is a concrete approach road and run-in to the pit. The silo was built by the farm staff in two months, during slack periods.

Official investigation by the National Agricultural Advisory Service shows a man-hour time cost of just under 40 minutes a ton of silage.

From—United Kingdom Information Service



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FWUA Section

MRS. C. T. ARMSTRONG
F.W.U.A. President



I am writing this from down under, on June 22nd — the shortest day and mid-winter. It is hard to believe, but when it gets dark at 5:30 p.m. you wish for daylight so you could see just a bit more before the day is done. It is only six days since we left Vancouver and we have been in several countries and climates already. We had two unscheduled stops, one at San Francisco, but it was so nice to see the States of Washington, Oregon and California, for the weather was clear and we flew low and saw quite a lot of the countryside, the mountains and cities. We arrived in Honolulu at 2:30 a.m. so we didn't have much sleep as we were anxious to see all we could in the short time we had there. The tropical trees and flowers were lovely, and for lunch we enjoyed the native pineapple, papaya, and cocoanut. We left Honolulu at 3:30 p.m., wearing the leis of orchids, plumeria, and ginger flowers which had been given to us on our arrival. We made another unscheduled stop at Canton Island, a little eight square miles of coral, which is jointly administered by Great Britain and U.S.A. It has a population of 300 since 1948. We went on to Fiji Island and even though it was the middle of the night when we arrived we were served tea, sandwiches, cookies and fruit. The native people are dark-skinned, tall fine-looking people and very nice to talk with. I only wished we had longer to stay on this island. We went on to Auckland, New Zealand. Here our party split up, some remained in Auckland. We went to Christchurch, and others went on to Dunedin. We went to Lincoln Agricultural College. There we saw many interesting things, such as we have on our own experimental farms. In the afternoon we went for a drive to the summit of

Christchurch and saw a lovely panoramic view of the city and Lyttleton Harbour. We also visited the lovely home and farm of Sir Heaton Rhodes, who was knighted for his philanthropic work just before he died at the age of 90 years. I was told that since he had given most of his money to charity this lovely place was having to be sold to pay the death duties. I thought about our work in connection with succession duties and how these things can happen to people who have done good with their money through their life-time. The sad part of this case is that beautiful trees will be cut down, some rare one, to go for lumber to raise money.

Our next stop was Wellington, N.Z. We arrived late Saturday night, — incidentally — all shops close on Saturday in N.Z. Early Sunday morning we were taken out to a dairy farm of about 100 acres and there we saw Holstein, Shorthorn and Jersey cattle. It was a bit of heaven to see the lovely valley, the farm home, and to meet the farm people. We were shown the McClary electric stove which had come from Canada 18 years ago. The farm was occupied by the fourth generation of the same family. They are members of the Federated Farmers, formerly known as the Farmers' Union. The eighteen-year-old son belongs to the Young Farmers and was away playing football with their league. The local had just built a lovely brick hall where they hold their monthly meetings and social affairs. All too soon we left these friends and were on our way to Auckland. Here was the first bad weather, it was raining and blowing, but it cleared the next day so we went to the museum and saw a lot of Maori exhibits, native birds, fish, etc. It

was a disappointment that we hadn't been able to visit these Maori people in their own villages, so did my best to get all the information I could from reliable source. I learned that there was a farmers' co-operative store so a few of us went to see it. They were celebrating their 48th anniversary. This is the main building, a 5-storey department store, with 72 smaller branches throughout N.Z. They have a 5-storey car-park for their patrons, and run 3 free busses at 5 minute intervals from downtown to transport customers back and forth. I was glad that I found out about this for myself, for it wasn't planned at all.

We are filling our day with writing reports, and letters back home before we leave early in the morning for Sydney, Australia.

Outside our window is a lovely poinsetta in full bloom. The holly trees have their red berries, and camellias and calla lilies are in bud. The gorse have their second bloom of yellow flowers. It's winter in June!

F.W.U.A. Hi-Lights

Anthony Hill FWUA #909 (Ponoka) found the letters from head office very interesting. Money was voted to be sent as a wedding gift to Mabel Rasmusen. Members are to take turns in sending a gift to their adopted mental patient once a month. This local will be catering to the Wetaskiwin convention.

* * *

Mrs. Robertson, women's director for District 1, gave the members of Bonanza FWUA #101 an interesting talk on various subjects. She also passed on some very helpful hints on meeting planning and social functions for the local.

* * *

Poe FWUA #809 (Holden) report an interesting talk and discussion on mental health. Plans have been made to show the film on C.M.H.A. at the next meeting if possible.

* * *

It was decided by Maple Lodge FWUA #811 (Viking) that it would be better for them to hold their Farmers' Day Picnic later in the summer. A discussion on Farm Women's Week, at Vermilion, July 29 - Aug. 1 was held.

* * *

Marwayne FWUA #716 report a very successful drive for C.M.H.A.—\$95.62 collected on tag day and \$70.00 given by local organizations — (a total of \$165.62). This local also sold lunch, home baking and plants and were quite successful. This is a very busy and useful local.

A better than average attendance at their June meeting is reported by Gleichen FWUA #1010. The younger members staged a humorous fashion show. Also, Miss Stephens, registered nurse, gave a lecture on first aid and a demonstration on artificial respiration, (the Neilson method).

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New Borschiw FWUA #625 (Haight) plan to show two films (if they are available), one on Australia and the other "Birth of the Soil".

* * *

The bulletin on "Education", by Mrs. House, proved very interesting to the members of Imperial FWUA #621 (Vegreville).

* * *

Bigstone FWUA #1114 (Youngstown) report that "Parity Prices" was the topic for a buzz session at the conference at Cessford and Mrs. Braithwaite referred to that topic as a part of her talk and was well pleased that the ladies had discussed it beforehand.

* * *

The decision has been made by One Tree FWUA #1307 to make further study on Australia, members will undertake subjects which particularly interest them and give a talk on same. At the July meeting one member will discuss "climate and topography."

* * *

The bulletin on "Education" was read by Burnt Lake FWUA #1004 (Red Deer) and was followed by discussion on same. A bake sale has been planned for a day in July. A Co-op flour "Special" has been added to the handicraft list.

* * *

At the June meeting of Utopia FWUA No. 1210 (Twin Butte) a number of matters were discussed and reported on. A film "Out of Darkness" will be shown. It is a very interesting and informative film and arouses great interest in the Canadian Mental Health Association.

* * *

Pine Hill #1013 (Red Deer) catered for a cattle sale. After the business part of the meeting was finished, a Red Deer florist gave a talk on care and arrangement of flowers.

* * *

Fleet FWUA #1104 report 5 members attended sub-district convention at Naco and enjoyed it very much. A monthly handicraft draw at 10c a ticket is a very popular item at each meeting. Bulletin on "Education" greatly appreciated.

F.U.A. District No. 8 Ninth Annual Convention

The ninth annual convention of the Farmers' Union of Alberta District No. 8 was held at Camrose, Monday, June 24th, with 134 registered delegates, including officials, and a large number of visitors.

The convention was opened by the director, W. R. Hansel of Gadsby, with Invocation by Rev. G. Payne of Camrose, and addresses of welcome from Acting Mayor Link of Camrose, and Ken Patrige of the Camrose Chamber of Commerce. Chairmen appointed for the day were Erwin Repp, Art Falla, W. R. Hansel, and C. Leidl.

Guest speakers for the day included Arnold Platt, provincial president of the organization; Mrs. C. R. Braithwaite of Red Deer, vice-president of the FWUA, and Dean Lien of Warner, who is provincial junior president. Mr. W. Harper, secretary of the Alberta Co-op Union, addressed the convention and urged members to support the plebiscite which will provide for the setting up of an egg marketing board controlled by the producers. Mrs. Winifred Ross of Millet spoke on behalf of the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Assoc. of Consumers. The M.L.A. for Camrose constituency, Mr. Chester Sayers, was also introduced and spoke briefly.

Annual reports were heard from all district officials. These included the director's report by W. R. Hansel; alternate FUA directors report by Cecil Keast; FWUA director's report by Mrs. Cecil Keast; Junior director, Calvin Ross; and sub-director's reports by Stan Perka, Clarence Jorgensen, R. B. Haesloop, Tom Bruce, Erwin Repp, and Glen Lundy.

It was with deep regret that delegates learned of the recent passing of the secretary-treasurer, Mr. Jos. E. Carter of Edberg. Mr. Carter had been an outstanding worker in the organization. A moment of silence was observed in respect to his memory and a Memoriam was read by Mrs. Cecil Keast, and delegates asked that a letter of condolence be sent on their behalf to Mrs. Carter and family.

A number of resolutions were dealt with. One asked that import duties be imposed on butter; another requested that the Provincial government assume all cost of vaccination for Bangs disease in cattle; a request that there be an investigation into the price spread in food stuffs between the producer and consumer was asked for; while another resolution asked that the price of sugar be investigated under the Combines Act. The proposed plan covering car

insurance, as suggested by the FUA, was accepted with delegates agreeing to support it.

This FUA district had offered prizes for winners in an essay contest on the subject, "The Value of Education on the Modern Mechanized Farm". These prizes it was announced by the Junior director, Calvin Ross, were awarded to Arnold Malone, Keith Langle and Grant Haugejorden.

Those, other than district officials, who assisted on committee work, included Ernest Koehli, Keith Osbach, Vern Coates, Johnny Robertson, Bill Koloski, Mr. Bolter and Mrs. M. Winters.

Officials elected for the ensuing year were: W. R. Hansel of Gadsby, director; Mrs. Cecil Keast, Viking, FWUA director; Mr. Cecil Keast, alternate FUA director; Mrs. M. Winters of Donald, alternate FWUA director; Calvin Ross, Junior director; and C. Leidl of Donald, secretary-treasurer. Sub-directors elected for District 1 to 6, included Stan Perka of Roundhill, Clarence Jorgenson of Strome, R. B. Haesloop of Ohaton, T. Bruce of Sedgewick, Erwin Repp of Stettler and Carl Mallet of Forestburg.

During the afternoon the City of Camrose served free coffee and doughnuts to convention members.

Delegates agreed to leave it to the district board to decide where the 1958 convention will be held.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

by Ed Nelson

In the past four years there has been a pattern set in the economics of this country. There has been a continual rise in pay for all parts of our economy, with some exceptions, the main one of these being the farmer and farm worker. Along with this general increase in pay has been a continual rise in corporation and business profits. In fact, we were told quite often during the recent election campaign that, "Canada has never had it so good."

I have very serious doubts, however, whether these observations are entirely true. In the first place, tho' most people have had more pay, the money they have taken in has bought fewer goods. Because of this, more people have borrowed, and purchased on time, than ever before. The net result being that the people of this country have mortgaged their future to a greater extent than ever before. This, in turn

has created the price squeeze that has hurt the farm people so seriously. The farm people have been utterly unable to cope with the situation as individuals. Instead of going into the market place with the products of their labors, to bargain for the best price obtainable, they have gone there to compete with each other, to get rid of their produce. Instead of bargaining for a lower price on the goods they must buy, they rather vie with one another to obtain the goods they need, thus actually creating a higher price than need be. These two faults can be largely blamed on the farm people themselves. Part can be blamed on our, so-called, economy, and part can be blamed on government policy.

The only people that can or will do anything about all this naturally, must be the people so affected. That, I think, is why we have a farm organization. We have come to a place in our way of life where the farm people can no longer survive as individuals. They must realize soon that they must do everything collectively that they have managed to do as individuals. They must realize that their farm organizations are tools, or machines, for them to use, not something to turn everything over to and sit back, expecting something to happen. (In other words, the farm people are going to have to start using their brains to do a bit of thinking for themselves, instead of leaving it up to someone else to do.)

Last December the Farmers' Union of Alberta held a very successful convention. In that convention, more wheels were set in motion, than for some time. One of these was a very definite attempt to begin to influence government policy where agriculture is concerned. I refer to the delegation sent to Ottawa to place farm problems before members of the House of Commons. Not only did they present those problems, they also presented possible solutions. I think that the farm people that did that job should have credit for a job well done. A serious problem was handled in a serious and dignified manner. The people in Government have been prone to hope (if they did not believe) that the ills besetting agriculture would clear up if given time. The delegation very ably showed the members of the Commons that, as time went on, conditions were worsening and, along with that, more and more farmers were forced off the land. I think that they were also shown that a decision would have to be made soon as to whether the country was going to support the family farm idea or return to the feudal system of a thousand years back.

In discussions with labor representatives it was found that labor is quite willing to be re-

alistic about the whole problem and are not opposed to a two price system. They are, however, very reluctant to get involved in anything that might endanger the gains they have made through the years.

The boards of trade, also, realize better than they did before that there is a serious problem. They, like other groups, don't want to lose any of their advantages.

These things are all facts and must be faced. No blame can be attached to anyone or any group. Self-preservation is a strong incentive for any people to hold what they have. All this only serves to indicate to farm people that if they wish to gain back the things they have lost they must accept responsibility. Their organization has done a job. To capitalize on this, each farmer must do two things. He must do everything in his power to convince his local M.L.A. and M.P. that these things are right. He must do all he can to enlighten his urban neighbors that there must be a change. Above all he must realize that unless he is prepared to join with his neighbor for bargaining power, all the other things are for naught. Now we have a new federal government. Some of the new members know the situation, some do not. All have one thing in common. They all need to know more. It, therefore, behooves all of us to do a lot of good, constructive thinking between now and the next convention. The farm people of Western Canada cannot afford to sit idly by now. If we are going to retain any semblance of farm life as we would wish it to be, each and every one of us must be prepared to put more effort into our organization than we have in the past. I believe that we are either already entering a new era, or certainly will be, before long. What the farm people do about it now will shape the things to come.

If we are prepared to turn our land over to large financial institutions, and accept a position as ordinary day laborers, working for them, all we have to do is sit idly by and it will come to pass. On the other hand, if we wish to make Agriculture into a vocation or business worth while, we have a job to do. We have been having trouble just to hold a steady membership, let alone make any gains. If each of us would take enough pride in our organization to go out and bring in another member we could have 80,000 members now. How about it, members? Let's go!

THE MARKET PROBLEM

In the past five years the Canadian Wheat Board has faced some tough marketing problems as surpluses of grain have accumulated in the major wheat exporting countries. But this year it may face its most critical period. When the present crop season ends on July 31, Canada will have a record carryover of wheat on hand — well over 600 million bushels — and oats and barley stocks will also be large. Wheat exports started off in good style this year but since Christmas they have slowed down and the outlook for the balance of the season is not reassuring.

In view of this situation, the perennial critics and opponents of orderly marketing are becoming increasingly vocal. The charges are now being repeated that Canadian wheat is overpriced and that if prices were permitted to fall to a more realistic level sales would be made without difficulty. Broomhall's Corn Trade News, representing the overseas grain trade, states :

"Dominion officials blame the governments of importing countries for subsidizing needed production of wheat and, above all, they blame the U.S. for adopting and pursuing a sales policy which Canada cannot possibly hope to emulate.

"Argentina has no difficulty in selling her wheat. Unable to match the U.S. in giving credit, she finds it easier to undercut the rigid prices of Canada and Australia in the knowledge that neither of these countries will attempt to compete.

The plain fact of the matter is that Canada cannot hope to compete with the treasury of the United States. When that country launched its various surplus disposal programs it showed no hesitation in undercutting Canadian prices and there is no reason to believe it would not do so again. It is obviously determined to move its grain on the world markets regardless of the effects on other nations. It is not likely to worry too much about the Argentine, because it has a relatively small surplus for export, but few believe it would be willing to take a back seat in any widespread price cutting game.

Low prices — no matter how far they may fall — are not liable to bring any major increase in world consumption of wheat nor a decline in production in the nations where wheat is produced uneconomically. They did not do so in the past and will not do so again. These na-

tions are obviously determined to protect their own wheat producers. For example, Italy is now offering a small surplus of soft wheat for export at the equivalent of \$1.92 a bushel, compared with \$3.05 it has paid its producers and \$3.22 the wheat brings when sold for domestic consumption.

Canadian export prices are already far below the support level of most export nations. The export price of 1 Northern Canadian wheat is now about \$1.64 a bushel. Support prices for wheat of much lower quality in a few of the importing countries are: Ireland \$2.06; United Kingdom \$2.31; Brazil \$2.56; Japan \$2.63; Germany \$2.73; Norway \$3.43; Switzerland \$4.03.

Drastic paring of prices might meet with the approval of overseas buyers, but it could only mean ruin for Canadian farmers for it would surely set off the most disastrous wheat price war in history.

An answer to the surplus problem will have to be found in other ways. It is likely that bolder and more imaginative sales methods will have to be employed and it will be necessary to continue representations to our neighbor to the south, insisting on fair trade practices. It is bound to take several years to resolve the problem and in the interim special measures are needed such as a two-price system for wheat, possibly deficiency payments to help maintain farm income above a depression level, and having the government bear a larger share of the cost of carrying grain.

For a number of years during and following World War II Canadian people, who are about the most prosperous in the world, were able to buy their wheat at bargain prices at the expense of the prairie farmer. A few years ago, at the annual meeting of the Alberta Wheat Pool, when asked the reason for Canadian people having the advantage of low price wheat, Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe stated: "Canadian people have come to the assistance of the prairie grain producer in the past and will do so again when the need arises." The need is here.

—Wheat Pool Budget

SAFETY MAKES SENSE — FOR YOU AND "ME"

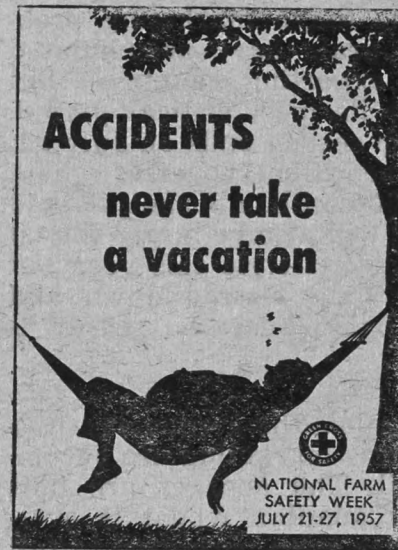
SAFETY MAKES SENSE



If you and I would just take safety seriously, not in a sad woe-ful way, but in a bright, and alert manner we would be well on our way to licking this problem of farm accidents. Take this slogan, Safety Makes Sense, you can hardly argue about it. It's reasonable and of course sensible.

Safety sense means many things to different people, but to all of us it will mean fewer deaths, fewer injuries, less grief and suffering and of course more useful years.

SAFETY MAKES SENSE



In talking to many accident victims there are always statements like these — I became so exasperated I threw caution to the winds — I knew I should have turned the power off, but I tried to save a moment — I was really fatigued but I wanted to finish the last few rounds. You have heard these same statements and probably have done or considered doing those same things.

Yes, Safety Does Make Sense, not alone for your neighbor, but for you, for you and family.

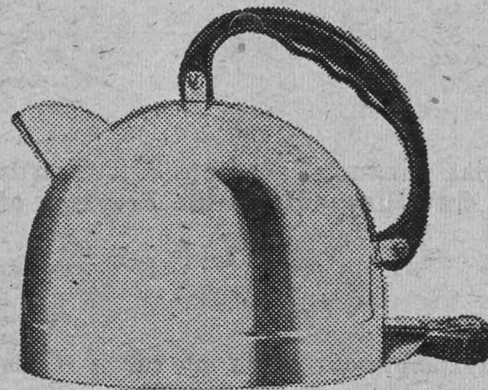
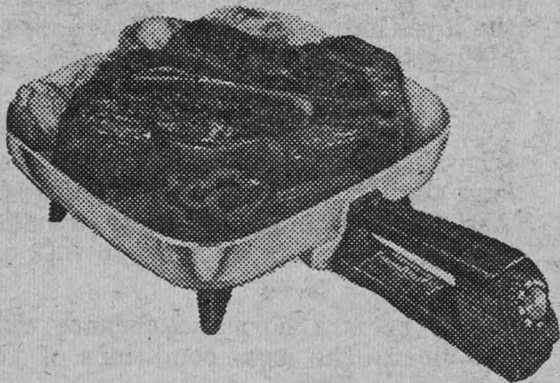
LET'S MAKE OUR SLOGAN —
"SAFETY MAKES SENSE FOR ME"

MEMBERSHIP RECORD — JUNE 1957

DISTRICT	June Men	To Date Men	June Women	To Date Women	June Assoc.	To Date Assoc.	June Jrs.	To Date Jrs.	To Date Total
District 1	17	1682	2	460	---	1	---	291	2434
District 2	9	1421	4	377	---	---	4	279	2077
District 3	2	1762	---	452	---	1	---	263	2478
District 4	28	2055	6	528	---	---	2	460	3043
District 5	54	1512	27	563	---	3	18	396	2474
District 6	22	2767	8	1071	---	6	1	564	4408
District 7	12	2740	5	802	---	3	4	420	3905
District 8	17	2203	4	559	---	---	8	345	3107
District 9	21	2315	10	674	---	3	4	347	3339
District 10	9	2587	18	654	1	16	4	254	3511
District 11	42	1485	7	488	---	10	3	179	2162
District 12	20	1891	3	728	---	3	---	320	2942
District 13	18	844	3	321	---	2	3	129	1296
District 14	30	1765	4	403	---	---	2	194	2362
TOTAL	301	27029	101	8080	1	48	53	4441	39598

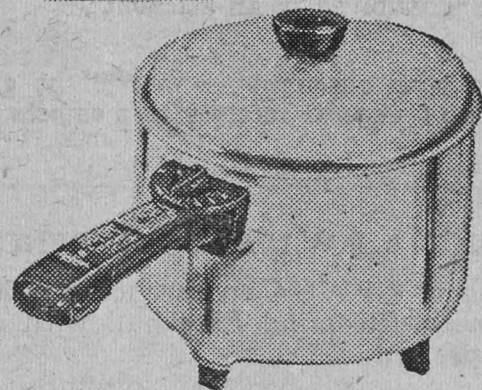


NOW, no need to start
wood or coal fires.



COOK FULL MEALS WITH THESE 3 APPLIANCES

- An Electric FRY PAN
- An Electric KETTLE
- An Electric SAUCEPAN



They provide controlled heat
to beat "SUMMER HEAT"



CALGARY POWER LTD.

HELPING TO BUILD A BETTER ALBERTA

F.U.A. AUTO INSURANCE POOL

QUESTIONS:

1. My present Auto Insurance does not expire until December, 1957. Can I send in my application now and have my policy issued shortly before that time?
2. What does Comprehensive Coverage include?
3. What limits of Bodily Injury and Property Damage Insurance would you recommend?
4. Are special Financial Responsibility cards required if travelling outside the Province of Alberta?
5. If I let my neighbour drive my car is it insured if he is involved in an accident?

ANSWERS:

1. Yes, by all means. Members are encouraged to send in their applications as soon as possible, showing expiry date of present insurance. Co-op Fire and Casualty Co., will issue policy and mail it out so it arrives just before expiry of present insurance.
2. It insures the vehicle against practically all physical damage, with the exception of damage resulting from collision, upset, wear and tear or mechanical breakdown. It does cover damage to all glass in vehicle and loss from Fire and Theft.
3. This is the most important insurance on your auto policy. A large claim for Bodily Injury or Property Damage could bankrupt most of us unless adequate insurance was carried. We would recommend at least \$100,000 inclusive Bodily Injury, Passenger Hazard and Property Damage limits, as it provides more flexible cover than the three individual limits. Rates are only slightly higher than for the lowest limits.
4. Yes, the Provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba have automobile financial responsibility laws similar to Alberta but require special cards. Ask Co-op Fire and Casualty for these anytime that you are going to motor to B.C. or Manitoba.
5. Yes if he is a normal insurance risk and does not violate the legal conditions of your policy.

Send in your questions — we will be glad to answer them and print them in subsequent issues if they are of general interest to members.

DISTRICT 8 F.W.U.A. CONFERENCE

District 8 FWUA conference was held May 29th in the Rosalind Elks hall with about 50 ladies present.

Mrs. McCallum of the university gave a talk and showed slides on landscaping. A speaker from the Bowden Institute spoke on the rules and work done at the institute. Mrs. Hooper of Camrose demonstrated two very lovely cakes. The Rosalind local presented Mrs. Keast with a cup and saucer and a lovely birthday cake as it was her birthday.

Dinner was served by the ladies of the Rosalind FWUA local.

NEAR RECORD PRODUCTION IN 1956

The index of physical volume of agricultural production in 1956 was the second highest on record. On the basis of 1935-39—100, it stood at 165.3 which was surpassed only in 1952, when the index reached 166.0. In 1955 the figure was 149.9. The increase in 1956 is largely attributable to larger grain crops harvested in the prairie provinces. There were increases also in the production of eggs and poultry, sugar beets, tobacco and maple products and, to a smaller extent, of livestock and dairy products. Output of potatoes, fruits and vegetables was reduced.

—Notes on Canadian Agriculture

Your Own Car Insurance

At the annual convention of the F.U.A. the board was instructed to appoint a committee to arrange for a Car Insurance Pool for F.U.A. members, to be administered by a car insurance company.

After negotiating with a number of companies we were fortunate in obtaining the services of the Co-op Fire and Casualty Co. This company is well established and is administering insurance programs in all parts of Canada.

THE PLAN

In order to obtain the best results we have agreed that it is necessary to insure at least 7500 vehicles at the regular low insurance rates quoted by the Co-op Fire and Casualty Company before establishing this pool (vehicles owned by F.U.A. members and already insured in Co-op Fire and Casualty will be automatically included in the F.U.A. Pool.

IT'S UP TO YOU

The rest is up to you — our immediate target is 7500 vehicles so that the pool can be set up before our annual convention. We are counting on every member insuring every vehicle with Co-op Fire and Casualty as present policies expire.

INSURANCE AT COST

Once this is in operation it will mean that F.U.A. members will obtain insurance at cost — only actual expenses of administration and claims being withdrawn from the pool — the balance being available for rate reductions in subsequent years.

HERE IS ALL YOU DO

Fill in and mail the coupon below — hand it to your F.U.A. secretary or mail to Co-op Fire and Casualty Co., 402 Northern Hardware Bldg., Edmonton, or 119 - 11th Ave. E., Calgary.

F.U.A. Car Insurance Pool

I am interested in insuring the following vehicles through the F.U.A. Car Insurance Pool and would ask to be reminded one month before my present policies expire by forwarding me rates and application forms.

Type of Vehicle

My present policy expires

1. _____

Name _____

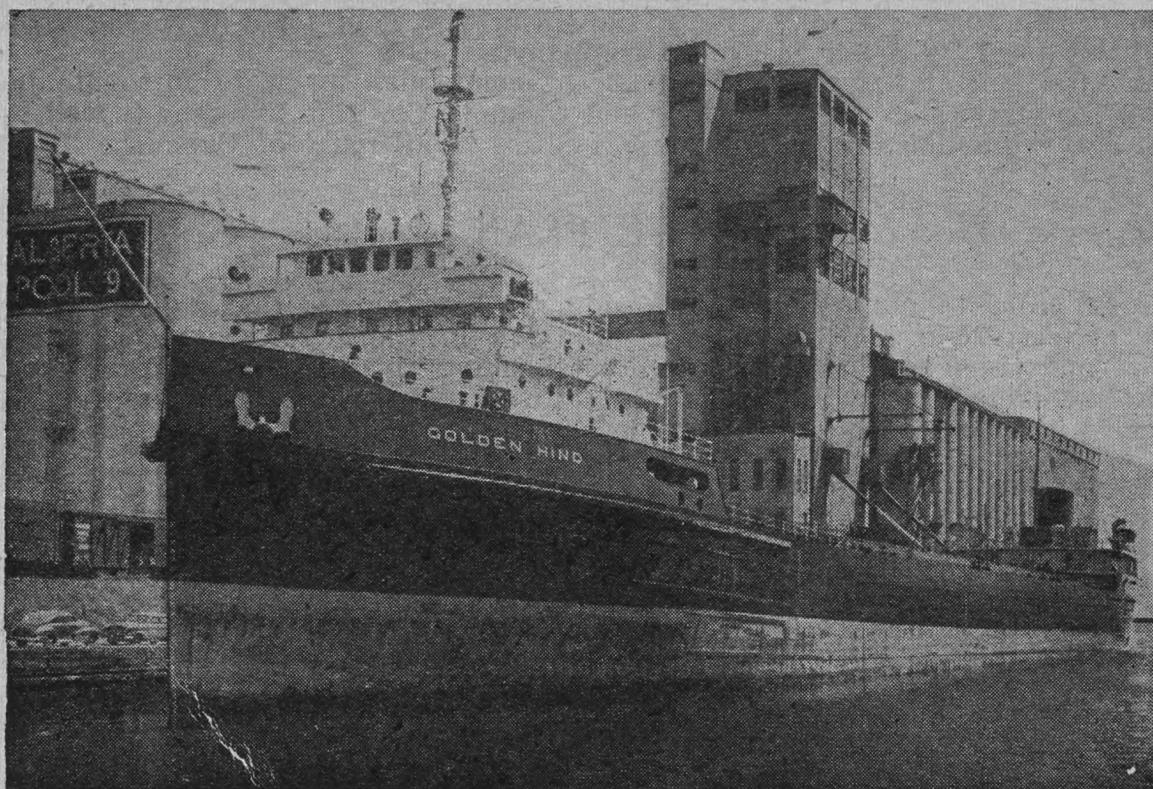
2. _____

Address _____

3. _____

(Please Print)

PRAIRIE to SEA



Alberta Wheat Pool terminal, Port Arthur

From 535 country elevators in Alberta to two great terminals located at Port Arthur and Vancouver, Alberta farmers have built themselves a vast co-operative elevator system in the Alberta Wheat Pool.

From the time they deliver their grain at the country point until it is loaded in a boat for export, it is handled by experienced grainmen employed by, and working for, farm people.

Wheat Pool members patronize Pool elevators with confidence because they receive the best service at cost and have already saved themselves over \$20,000,000 in patronage dividends.

You, too, can share in these benefits. Join the Pool and deliver to Pool elevators.

Alberta Wheat Pool Elevators

FARMER-OWNED CO-OPERATIVE